Queen Anne Cobblestone

The Newsletter of the Queen Anne Historical Society, Seattle, WA

January, 2005

Crown of Lights Blazes Forth Again

Each year the Queen Anne Historical Society sponsors a "Crown of Lights" holiday lighting contest. This year's winners are described below. Chair of the Crown of Lights, and one of the judges, was the ever-faithful **Bob Frazier**. Other judges included **John Coney**, representing the Uptown Alliance, and **Nadine Belcher Frazier**, representing the QA High School Alumni.

In the "On the Boulevard" category, reminding us of the Queen Anne Boulevard, built as part of the Seattle parks plan early last century on the "crown" of Queen Anne hill, our winner was the **Steck residence** at 2502 1st Ave. West (corner of 1st West and W. Smith). When asked about the display, Mrs. Steck said "My husband came up with the idea for a manger scene 35 years ago. The family all worked together to create what you see here today, and each year my son comes to set it up for me."

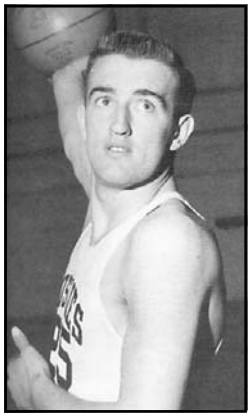
Runners up this year for "On the Boulevard" included: 1240 Bigelow Ave and 1222 8th Place W.

*(See **Lights**, page 3)*

On-the-Boulevard winner, Mrs. Steck, at 2502 1st Ave W.
Photo by Bruce Jones

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS... SPORTS AT QUEEN ANNE HIGH

Join your friends and neighbors for an evening of local sports history. Follow the history of championship teams at Queen Anne High School and its stars from 1909 through 1981. Can you guess in which sport the school won the most city titles? Come join us on 26 January 2005 to see and hear about the who, when and how Queen Anne made its impact on city high school sports over the years. **Kim Turner**, QAHS board member and Queen Anne High School grad, as well as historian of all things Grizzly, will give the narrative, assisted by a video interview with a former champion and visuals to accompany the program



Bob Houbregs, 1953.
Courtesy UW Media Relations.

Join your neghbors at our next public meeting

Wednesday, Jan. 26, 7:30 pm
McClure Middle School Library
First Ave. W. and W. Crockett St.

The meeting is free and open to the public. It begins at 7:30 pm at McClure Middle School library, 1915 1st Ave.West on Queen Anne. For more information, contact Del Loder at 206-282-8771.

how to contact us:
Queen Anne Historical Society
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Seattle, WA 98109-1432

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The QAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by Federal law.

The Archives of the Society are located in Bayview Manor, 11 W. Aloha, Seattle, WA 98119

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Membership Notice

NOTICE! Thank you for having renewed your membership for 2004-2005. **Your mailing label shows the year your current membership expires. If your label shows *(2005EXP)* it means your membership runs through May 2005. Please use the coupon on page 3 and renew now if you have not already**. Your membership and involvement help to preserve our community's heritage. For information contact Membership Chair, Nadine Belcher, at 206-284-8369. ***.....Thanks for helping make this a***

Calendar of

Wed. Jan. 26, 2005

Program: Sports Champions at Queen Anne High School. McClure Middle School Library, 7:30 pm. Free. (See page one.)

Wed. Mar. 23, 2005

Program: The Building of King County Highways (tentative). McClure Middle School Library, 7:30 pm. Free.

Wed. May 25, 2005

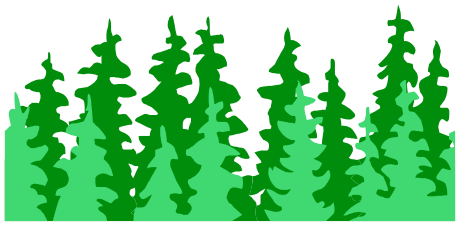
Program: Annual Meeting and Program. Women of Queen Anne: Their Accomplishments and Their 1900 Fashions. Live models wearing period clothing. *Not to be missed*. Location to be announced, 7:30 pm. Free.

Sat. June. XX, 2005

Walking Tour: The annual tour of Mt. Pleasant Cemetery. 10 am. Date yet to be chosen. Free.

Wed. Sept. 28, 2005

Program: Saw Mills and Lumber Mills of Queen Anne. McClure Middle School Library, 7:30 pm. Free.



The President's Desk

Master and Commander Blekum

For those of you who joined us on last summer's tour of Mt. Pleasant, you will remember our stop at the site of Harold (born Harald) Blekum as part of our occupations theme. Harold was a lifelong sailor who commanded various vessels in the Puget Sound area during the late 1800's. Beyond his birth (1865) and death (1950), we knew little about him, other than what we'd been able to find in Bagley's Seattle history book and an obituary column from the Seattle Times. We tour guides lament many times how we learn such a little about people whose lives were certainly much fuller than we can find in 100+ year old documentation.

I posted a summary of our tour on our web site, *qahistory.org*, so that people who were unable to attend our tour could catch a flavor of our visits to Mt. Pleasant—and as part of the summary, mentioned the names of the past pioneers we visited last June.

How fortunate for us, for in late October we received an e-mail from the great granddaughter of Mr. Blekum, Pam Wilson, and she lived in the Seattle area. We exchanged emails and found out that Pam was in fact an amateur genealogist, in addition to many other pursuits, and has since made available for the Society's use multiple documents, including photos of Mr. Blekum, some of the ships he commanded, and copies of other first-person documents of his life, a fabulous treasure trove.

*(See **Blekum**, page 3)*

So we thank Pam for her wonderful

Our Mission Statement

The mission of the Queen Anne Historical Society is to record and preserve, in permanent form, the history of the settling of the Queen Anne community and to develop within the community an appreciation and concern for its history and its historical sites.

***(Blekum**, continued from page two.)*

donation to the Society, which will allow us to provide a more complete picture of family life on Queen Anne during the late 19th and early 20th century.

Enjoy our photo of Harold Blekum and his family, about 1902. Accompanying Harold from left to right are daughter Karen, son Oscar, daughter Clara, daughter Edna and wife Inge. Harold married Inge in Port Blakely, Bainbridge Island.

Harold Blekum and family (see story). Photo provided by Pam Wilson

***(Lights**, continued from page one.)*

This year's winner for best "Off the Boulevard" display was the home of **Jim and Mary Bruder** at 2427 9th Ave. W. This category includes all residences on the hill that are not on historic Queen Anne Boulevard. **Jim Bruder**, owner, mentioned he'd been doing the display "as long as he could remember" — his family has been in this house over 40 years. The Santa Express was new this year. When Jim saw a commercial lighted train at a store, he thought "I can do this", so he sketched out the drawings, did the cutouts on plywood of his own, painted everything, and added lights—great details on the Santa Express.

Runners-up for "Off the Boulevard" included:165 McGraw St. and 2309 Nob Hill

Both winners' displays were highlighted by a sign from the Society marking their selections. We hope you had time to drop by to see these beautiful displays honoring the holiday season.

Jim Bruder with his Santa Choo Choo...track 29, at 2427 9th W.
Photo by Bruce Jones

Yes, I want to join the Queen Anne Historical Society in preserving our community's heritage and promoting the public's understanding of its past.

Name _____ Tel. _____

Address_____

City _____, State _____ Zip_____

E-mail _____

Member Category: (check one)

___ Individual $15 ___ Patron $50 - $199
___ Family $20 ___ Benefactor $200 & up
___ Student/Senior $8 ___ Contribution only, $_____

___ I would like to become active in the Society.

The QAHS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
Donations are deductible to the extent permitted by Federal law.

***Return with payment to:** Queen Anne Historical Society,*

Yes, I want to order the Society's book, *Queen Anne—Community on the Hill*.
I understand that mailing costs will be added.

Prices are:
Soft cover: $25
($20 for members)
Hard cover: $45
($40 for members)

Please send me the following:
Soft cover qty:____
Soft cover cost: $_____
Hard cover qty:____
Hard cover cost: $_____
Mailing costs at $3/book:

Queen Anne Historical Society
PO Box 19432
Seattle, WA 98109-1432

***Coming up*: Championship Sports Teams at Queen Anne High School, at the Wed. Jan. 26th Program at McClure Middle School.**

Kim's Musings

Queen Anne High School Remembered

Once upon a time there was a high school on top of Queen Anne Hill. It served the community quite well from 1909 until 1981. We are coming up on the centennial of that school. As historians it behooves us to gather as much data as we can on the school, its teachers, and its students.

There are and were many graduates of Queen Anne who made a difference in the community. Some were originally teachers at the school, some went through its halls to learn about the world beyond the hill and eventually made significant contributions to society.

There are many who became captains of industry, others who chose the field of politics to make needed changes to the hill and its city and state. Some were inventors, some wrote, many followed music, art and drama to successful careers, and not a few made a name for themselves in the world of sports.

Doctors, lawyers, merchants, police, firemen and other community careers. Each graduate gave of himself and herself unselfishly through World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and Gulf Wars I & II. Some moved away (as their jobs required, or by choice) and some stayed to add a second, third and even fourth generation of Queen Anners whose lives have changed the community forever.

Auld lang syne is a good time to remember, to toast them and their descendants! Skoal!!!

Happy New Year from Kim R. Turner, Research Chair

Isn't it time you became more involved with the Queen Anne Historical Society? Join the Board of Trustees! Help out in the archives! Call John Hennes at (206) 284-2266 for more details about how you can share in making and keeping Queen Anne's history.